

PATENT

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 19 as follows:

--It would be desirable to have an application loader that does not require the use of a filing system module embedded in the read only memory. It would be desirable to have an application loader that overcomes the limitations of the prior art mechanism discussed above. It is an therefore an objective of the present invention to provide for an interrupt 21h read only memory (ROM) client loader and payload delivery method for use in computer systems. --

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 7 as follows:

--The EFS filing system interface layer 12 and the EBS filing system and drive letter support layer 13 were developed by EBS, Inc. and were modified by the assignee of the present invention to the extent necessary to properly operate within the BIOS. The EBS filing system interface layer 12 requires a large (on the order of 25 kilobytes) amount of space in the read only memory 19. The EBS filing system interface layer 12 implements open, close, read, and write operations on a hard disk drive. The EBS filing system and drive letter support layer 13 The hardware interface layer 14 implements interrupt (Int) 13h wraparound functions. The interrupt 13h wraparound functions include reads and writes from the hard disk drive. --

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 10 as follows:

--Fig. 2a is a timing diagram that illustrates operation of the exemplary Int 21h ROM client loader 10, and loading of the payload and Windows 9x operating system on the computer system. The computer system is powered on (illustrated by the leftmost line in Fig. 2a) which starts a power-on-self-test (POST) procedure. During the next 20-45 seconds, depending upon the specific Windows 9x operating system that is installed, the POST procedure is inoperative and system firmware or BIOS is loaded. --

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 17 as follows:

--If the Windows operating system is installed, a DOS Master Boot Record (MBR) is read 34 into the buffer. Then, a determination 35 is made whether there is a

NOV-15-2004 04:03PM FROM-PHOENIX TECH. LTD LEGAL DEPT.

+4085701044

T-877 P.008/015 F-332

PATENT

non-DOS signature on the disk drive, which determines if it is a DOS drive. If a non-DOS signature is found (yes), the buffer is cleared 38 and the POST procedure 31 is continued with the ROM client loader 20 not installed.